

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG SEASON 3



SHORT 3

THE MECHANIC'S
PUZZLE



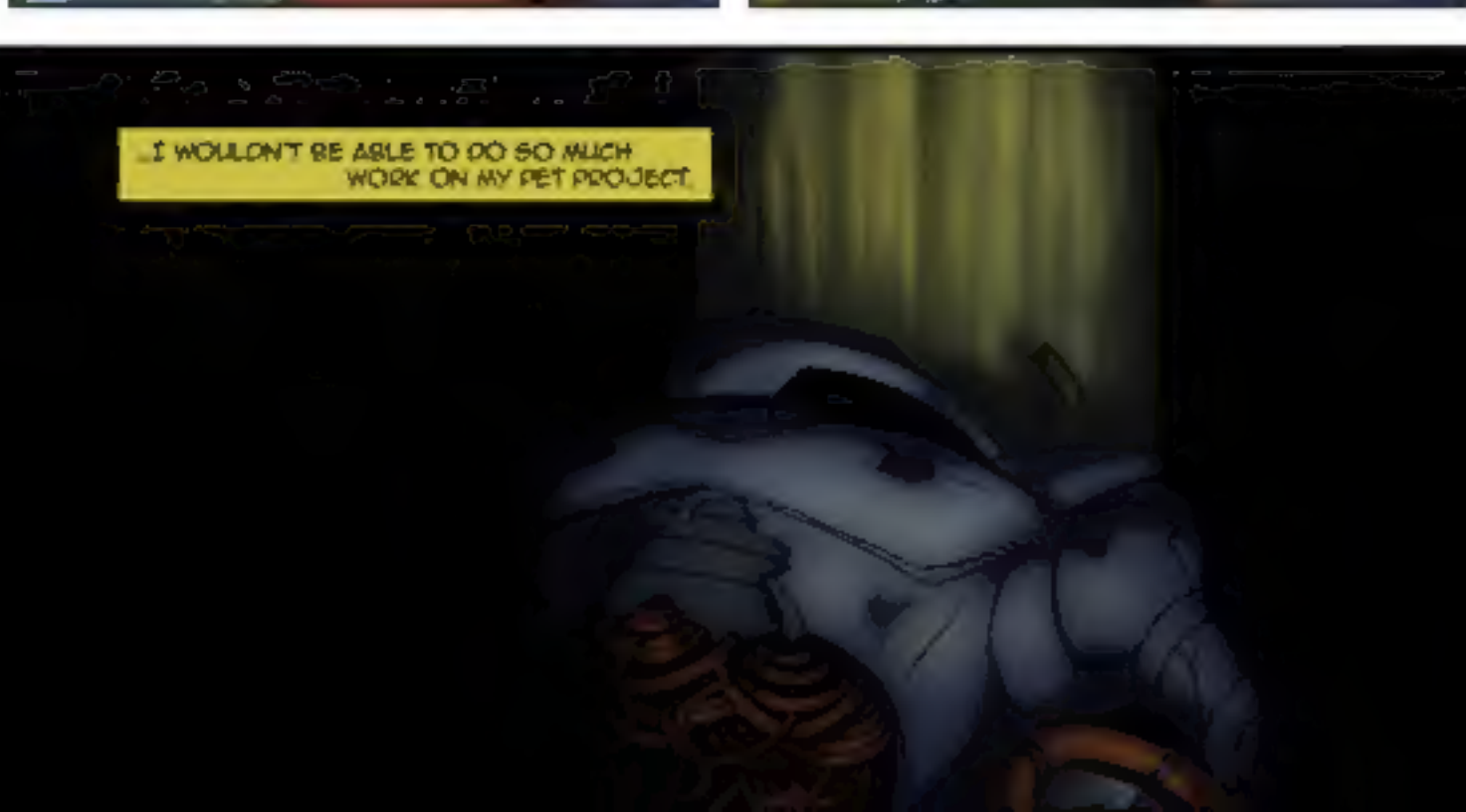
ROTOR'S JOURNAL, ENTRY #28.
THE TEAM LEFT FOR ANOTHER MISSION TODAY.
AS USUAL, I WAS ASKED TO STAY BEHIND.



IT USED TO BOTHER ME, I GUESS IT STILL DOES,
A LITTLE, BUT I ALSO KNOW, IF I DIDN'T GET
TO SPEND ALL THIS TIME HERE IN KNOTHOLE...



I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO SO MUCH
WORK ON MY PET PROJECT.





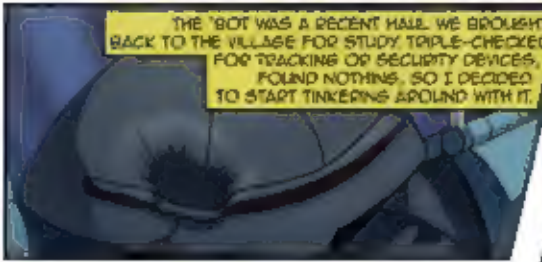
THE MECHANICS PUZZLE

WRITTEN BY ERIC MASON

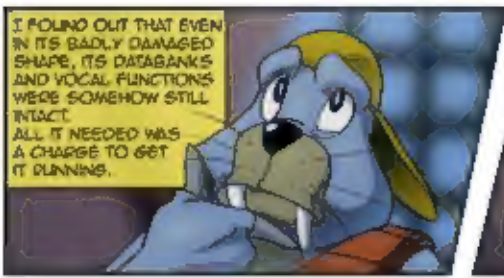
ILLUSTRATED BY SAM HALE

EDITED BY PAUL SCOTT AND JOHN ROBERTS

BASED ON THE "SONIC THE HEDGEHOG" CARTOON, CHARACTERS OWNED BY DIC AND SEGA




THE 'BOT WAS A RECENT HAIL. WE BROUGHT
BACK TO THE VILLAGE FOR STUDY. TRIPLE-CHECKED
FOR TRACKING OR SECURITY DEVICES.
FOUND NOTHING. SO I DECIDED
TO START TINKERING AROUND WITH IT.



I FOUND OUT THAT EVEN
IN ITS BADLY DAMAGED
SHAPE, ITS DATABANKS
AND VOCAL FUNCTIONS
WERE SOMEHOW STILL
INTACT.
ALL IT NEEDED WAS
A CHARGE TO GET
IT RUNNING.



SO I MADE ONE FOR IT.

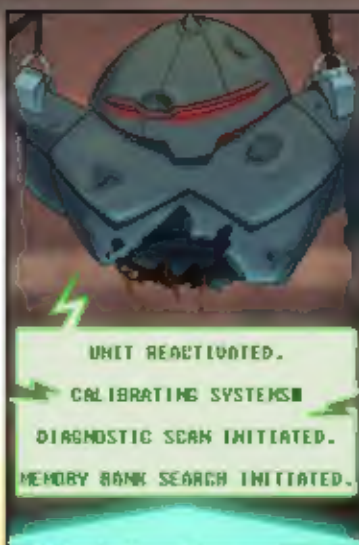


TO SEE IF WE COULD EXTRACT USEFUL
INFORMATION FROM THE 'BOT.

TO TRY AND ANALYZE HOW IT REACTS
TO THE SITUATION AND LEARN MORE ABOUT
HOW IT'S PROGRAMMED. AND OF COURSE, THE
OLDEST REASON TO DO ANYTHING IN SCIENCE...

TO SEE IF I COULD.

VRRRM!



YES, YES, YES!

IT WORKS!



SYSTEM CALIBRATIONS COMPLETE.
UNIT HAS SUSTAINED HEAVY DAMAGE.
PROTOCOL SYSTEMS MALFUNCTIONING.
REPAIRS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY.

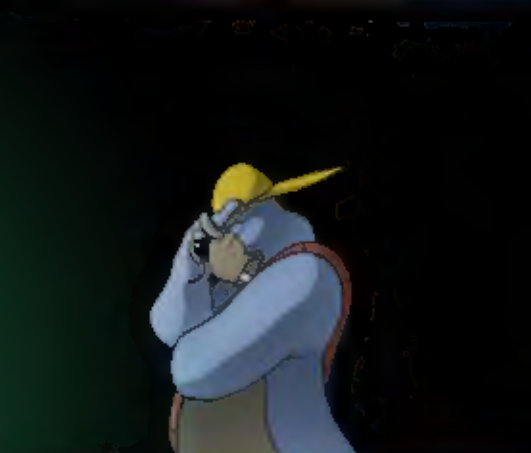
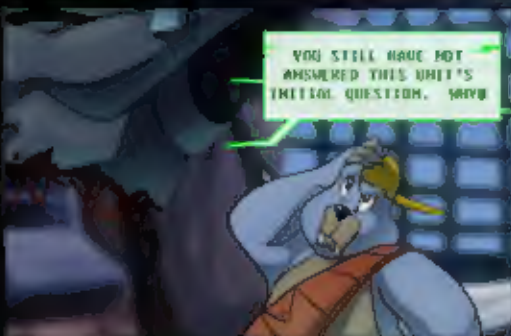
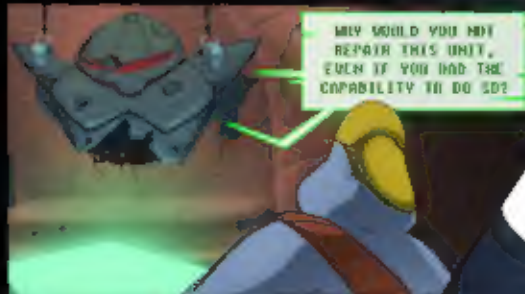
YEAH,
SORRY ABOUT THAT,
BUT I CAN'T HELP
YOU THERE.

'SIDES, EVEN IF I COULD,
I DON'T THINK I WOULD.



WHY?


...WHAT DID
YOU SAY?





PRIORITY-ONE TARGETS IDENTIFIED.
COLLECTIVE DESIGNATION: FREEDOM FIGHTERS.





AND NOW YOU
KNOW WHY I CAN'T
REPAIR YOU.

BECAUSE WE'RE
ENEMIES.

ANSWER INSUFFICIENT.




YOU ARE THE ONE WHO
RE-ACTIVATED THIS UNIT.
THIS UNIT HAS NO REASON
TO CONSIDER YOU AN ENEMY.



THAT'S...
I MEAN,

I DIDN'T THINK IT
WAS POSSIBLE FOR A
SWATBOT TO MAKE THAT
CALL FOR ITSELF.



I WONDER...
COULD THE SECOND-HAND
ENERGY SOURCE BE AFFECTING
YOUR PROGRAMMING
SOMEHOW?

UNIT STILL REQUIRES -

HEH, DON'T YOU
WORRY, PAL.

GIVE ME SOME TIME
TO FIGURE OUT
JUST WHAT'S GOING
ON, AND I'LL PATCH
YOU UP AS SOON
AS I CAN!



...PAL?

WELL, SURE.

HONESTLY, YOU'RE THE FIRST
SWATBOT I'VE EVER MET WHO DIDN'T
WANT TO KILL ME,
AND THAT'S REASON ENOUGH
TO THINK OF YOU AS A FRIEND.



...PAL.



NEVER THOUGHT I'D HEAR A SWATBOT
CALL ME THAT, BUT HONESTLY?
IT FEELS PRETTY GOOD.

NOW THEN,

LET'S HAVE A LOOK 'N'
SEE WHAT WE CAN SEE.



IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL IN YOUR SEARCH
IF YOU REPAIR THIS UNIT!
WHAT WILL THIS UNIT'S PURPOSE BE?

WELL, UM...I GUESS IT COULD
UM...THAT IS, YOU'D, UM...

SORRY, NOT VERY GOOD AT THIS
PARTICULAR BRAND OF MULTI-TASKING.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, THOUGH,
IF YOU'RE SMART ENOUGH TO ASK THAT
QUESTION, YOU'RE SMART ENOUGH TO
FIGURE OUT AN ANSWER TOO.

THIS UNIT UNDERSTANDS...

THANK YOU.

...YOU'RE WELCOME.

WARNING, WARNING.
THIS UNIT IS EXPERIENCING ENERGY IMBALANCE.
SYSTEMS MALFUNCTIONING!!

WHAT?

OH MAN, OH MAN,
THE GENERATOR'S ENERGY
MUST'VE STARTED OVERLOADING
YOUR SYSTEMS!

I'VE GOT TO DE-ACTIVATE
THE GENERATOR!

IF THE GENERATOR IS DE-ACTIVATED,
THIS UNIT WILL ALSO BE DE-ACTIVATED.

AND IF I DON'T DE-ACTIVATE
THE GENERATOR, YOUR
SYSTEMS WILL BURN OUT
COMPLETELY AND I'LL
NEVER BE ABLE TO
FIX YOU!

LOOK...
I KNOW IT'S ASKING FOR A LOT,
BUT I NEED YOU TO TRUST ME HERE.

I'LL DEACTIVATE YOU NOW,
BUT I PROMISE, ONE DAY I'LL
FIND A WAY TO FIX YOU AND GET
YOU ACTIVATED AGAIN!

PAL.

I UNDERSTOOD.



RRRRRRMMMMMVOOOOOOOO....

ROTOR'S JOURNAL, ENTRY #29:
FIRST EXPERIMENT WITH
GENERATOR COMPLETED. THE RESULTS...
HAVE LEFT ME WITH MORE
QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS.

IS THIS SWATBOT UNIQUE?
CAN I FIND A WAY TO FIX IT SOMEDAY?
IF I DID, WHAT WOULD WE DO WITH IT?
WHAT WOULD IT DO FOR ITSELF?



I DON'T HAVE THE ANSWERS FOR ANY OF THAT.

STILL, LIKE A
GOOD SCIENTIST...

I WILL KEEP TRYING TO FIND THEM.



-THE END-



Short Writer and Story Developer: Eric Mason

Short 3 Illustrator and Designer: Sami Hale

Head Producers and Editors of Side Story's: Paul Scott, John Roberts

Producers and Directors of Sea3on and FUS: Paul Scott and John Roberts

Download Organizer: Douglas G. Bigelow

If you wish to advertise Sea3on on your website or blog please use one of our banners that you can find here:

<http://www.sonicsatam.com/linking.php> Remember, linking to us helps give Sea3on popularity and more fans. The more fans, the better we get.

Thank you.

For further talk on Sea3on, please join the FUS forums

<http://sonicsatam.com/forums/>

NICOLE, let me in.

I can't do that Sally....

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SEASON
3

